

Minutes of Meeting
Health Services Council
Project Review Committee-I

DATE: 20 January 2009

TIME: 2:30 PM

LOCATION: Health Policy Forum
Department of Health

ATTENDANCE:

Committee-I: Present: Victoria Almeida, Esq., (Vice Chair), Edward F. Almon, Wallace Gernt, Amy Lapierre, Thomas M. Madden, Esq., Robert J. Quigley, D.C., (Chair), Robert Ricci

Excused: John W. Flynn

Not Present: Joseph V. Centofanti, M.D., Robert Whiteside

Committee-II: Present: Sen. Catherine E. Graziano RN, Ph.D

Staff: Valentina D. Adamova, MBA, Michael K. Dexter, MPA, Joseph G. Miller, Esq., Michael Varadian, JD, MBA

Public: Attached

1. Call to Order, Approval of Minutes, Conflict of Interest Forms and Extension for the Minutes Availability

The meeting was called to order at 2:35 PM. The Chair noted that conflict of interest forms are available to any member who may have a conflict. Minutes of the Project Review Committee-I meeting of 6 January 2009 were adopted as submitted. A motion was made, seconded and passed by a vote of seven in favor with none opposed (7-0) that the availability of minutes for this meeting be extended beyond the time frame as provided for under the Open Meetings Act. Those members voting in favor were: Almeida, Almon, Gernt, Lapierre, Madden, Quigley, Ricci.

2. General Order of Business

The first item on the agenda was the Change Order Request of **Miriam Hospital** [Lifespan Corporation] to the 27 October 2004 Certificate of Need to Construct Three Floors to House Medical/Surgical Nursing Units, Upgrade the Emergency Department, and Consolidate and Upgrade Diagnostic and Patient Treatment Areas.

Dr. Hittner, President of Miriam Hospital, discussed the proposed debt financing. Dr. Hittner noted that the hospital wouldn't go forward with the project without the proposed debt financing. The

Committee questioned the applicant regarding the terms of the financing, its affordability and its impact on the healthcare system.

Mr. Varadian noted that the hospital needs to make a convincing case that the proposed investment is viable and will not increase costs to the consumers. He stated that the plan needs to be viable for Rhode Island and affordable for the institution.

The Chair suggested that the applicant's experts make a presentation to the Committee on this issue. A motion was made, seconded, and passed by a vote of six in favor, none opposed and one recusal (6-0-1) that the applicant provide a written report from their advisor from Morgan Stanley and RIHEBC and that these advisors be present at the next meeting to present this information and answer Committee's questions. Those members voting in favor were: Almon, Gernt, Lapierre, Madden, Quigley, Ricci. Those members recusing were: Almeida.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Valentina D. Adamova, MBA
Health Economics Specialist